

REMARKS

Applicant expresses appreciation to the Examiner for consideration of the subject patent application. This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed April 13, 2005. Claims 16-21 have been allowed and claims 3-7, and 10-14 were indicated as allowable. Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 22 were rejected. The claims and drawings have been amended to address the concerns raised by the Examiner.

Claims 1-22 remain in the application. Claims 1-22 were originally presented. Claims 1, 9 and 22 have been amended.

The indication of allowable claims 16-21, and the indication of allowable subject matter in claims 3-7 and 10-14, if rewritten in independent form, is acknowledged with appreciation.

Drawing Objections

The drawings were objected to because in FIG. 1c, the actuators were identified as elements "36", while page 4 line 29 of the specification identified the actuators as elements "38".

The correct element number for the actuators shown in FIG. 1c is "38". Therefore, as shown on the enclosed replacement sheet, Figure 1c has been amended, without adding new matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 15 and 22 (including independent claims 1, 9 and 22) were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Iwamoto (JP 358167263A).

The Iwamoto reference discloses a wheel having a rotary disc 7 attached to the side of a shaft 25 and a plurality of vanes 8 fitted with lever fulcrums 10 disposed between the disc and shaft. The lever fulcrums of each of the plurality of vanes are coupled with an eccentric guide groove in the disc that causes each of the plurality of vanes to extend outward in turn as the disc and shaft rotate as a wheel. As clearly disclosed in FIGs. 1-9, the lever fulcrums are fitted to the plurality of vanes so as the disc rotates the lever fulcrum extends the vane radially outward from the shaft. No movement occurs between the lever fulcrum and the vane. Thus, Iwamoto discloses more of a wheel with a plurality of individual and independent claws than a series of leg segments that pivot with respect to one another. Therefore, the Iwamoto reference fails to

disclose an array of components joined in series configurable as a single articulated leg with the components movable with respect to one another.

In contrast, independent claim 1 of the present invention sets forth:

“an array of components joined in series configurable as i) a single articulated leg with an upper leg pivotally coupled at an axis to a body and a lower leg pivotally coupled to the upper leg, the upper and lower legs movable with respect to one another in a walking motion.”

Similarly, independent claims 9 and 22 set forth:

“a plurality of leg segments pivotally joined in series to form a single leg ...the leg segments ... movable with respect to one another.”

The elements of “a single leg” and segments “pivotally joined in series” and “movable with respect to one another” are not taught in the Iwamoto reference. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 9, and 22 are now allowable, as are the claims that depend therefrom, and urges the Examiner to withdraw the rejection.

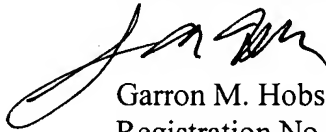
CONCLUSION

In light of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that pending claims 1-22 are now in condition for allowance. Therefore, Applicant requests that the rejections and objections be withdrawn, and that the claims be allowed and passed to issue. If any impediment to the allowance of these claims remains after entry of this Amendment, the Examiner is strongly encouraged to call Garron Hobson at (801) 566-6633 so that such matters may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Amendment to Deposit Account No. 20-0100.

DATED this 20th day of May, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,



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Drawing Amendments

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to FIG. 1c. This sheet, which includes FIGs. 1a-1d, replaces the original sheet containing FIGs. 1a-1d. In FIG. 1c reference "36" was changed to reference "38".

Attachment: Replacement sheet.